MASON'S

Coin and Stamp

COLLECTORS'

MAGAZINE.

JUNE, 1867.

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MASON'S

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MAGAZINE.

VOL. I. JUNE, 1867. No. 3.

HISTORY OF THE COINS OF AMERICA.

(Continued.)

In 1778 the "Chalmers" Annapolis "Shilling" Sixpence" and "Threepence" appeared. These coins, struck in silver, by J. Chalmers, of Annapolis, Md., are rare, and comm and good prices. Specimens are found in excellent condition.

The *obverse* bears the name and residence of its author, J. CHALMERS, ANNAPOLIS-:- on the outer edge, in the centre, two hands joined; the latter surrounded by a small wreath. *Reverse* two birds in centre, above which are three waved lines; surrounded by a dotted circle; around the rim of the coin the numerals and words as follows: 8. ONE-:- SHILLING, 8.. 1788.

The "Pitt Token," which is not generally named among an ordinary series of American coins, although possessing interest and value from being in circulation as a medal to fix the period of the detestable "Stamp Act," which so incensed the colonies against the "mother country," made its appearance in Massachusetts in 1766. The *obverse* presents the bust of Wm. Pitt, Earl of Chatham, surrounded by the legend, THE RESTORER OF COMMERCE NO STAMPS, 1766. The *reverse* presents a ship, the hull, of the "Chinese Junk" pattern, on the left side; under the bow of the vessel is the word AMERICA; around the whole, the legend, THANKS TO THE FRIENDS OF LIBERTY AND TRADE. This piece is of brass. Vermont issued a large number of copper coins from 1778 to 1788. One variety bears the inscription "*Vermon Auctori,*" another "*Vermontensium Respublica*, 1786." The V. A. coins bear a close resemblance to George the III. half-pennies. The V. R. variety has on the *obverse* a representation of the sun rising above a range of mountains, at the foot of which a plough is seen. The reverse has an eye in the centre with diverging rays, interspersed with 13 stars; surrounding which is the inscription, "*Quarta Decima Stella.*"

The Colonies of Connecticut, and New Jersey can lay claim to the largest quanity and variety of coins ever issued in America. The former coins were of copper, and resemble on the obverse the English half-pennies of George III.—all the varieties known presenting a bust on the obverse, and the reverse a seated figure (female) with an olive branch in the right hand and a staff in the left. Inscriptions on the obverse vary, as follows: *Auctori Connec; Auctobi Connec; Aucri Conn; Aubi Connec;* &c. On the reverse there is the same variety found in the legends, *Ind, Et. Lib; Inde. Et. Lib; Inde—Etlib*, &c. Dates 1786, '87 and 1788.

These Connecticut coins are very common, and it seems almost impossible to to get a complete set of them, so numerous are the varieties. The value of these coins has been greatly reduced, during the past ten years, by the great quantity which have been found. The "nigger-head" variety seems to be the coin most sought after by numismatists.

(To be continued.)

THE COIN TRADE.

BY E. M., JR.

There have been several communications of late, inserted in numismatic publications in reference to the origin, and progress of the "Coin Trade" in this country. One writer, ("A. B. S.") through the columns of the *N. Y. Numismatic Journal*, claims that the discussion of coins, during the year 1857, in the *N. Y. Sunday Dispatch*, between "Gus" and "Numismatist," awakened an interest, and brought many members into the numismatic field; while Mr. Cogan of N. Y., asserts his claims as having given an impetus to coin collecting and dealing, through "Lottery" sales which took place in his store, in this City, Nov. 1858, and to the change in the character of the Mint coinage from copper to nickel. The writer having taken a very active interest in the collection of coins in 1858, and having been a Coin Dealer in 1860, in this City, feels no little interest in this discussion of the "Coin Trade." It is our opinion, that the active trade and multiplication of coin collectors, during the years 1857, '58, '59, and '60, arose from a concatenation of circumstances, some of which are correctly enumerated by A. B. S., and Mr. Cogan in the different communications which have recently appeared over their signatures; but as there are other influences inseparably connected with the "successful period"—if we may so term it,—of the coin mania we propose to give them,

First—The change of coinage in 1857, from the large cumbersome coppers to the more convenient and small nickels, led, as Mr. Cogan aptly argues, to the desire of many persons to possess a complete collection of the copper coins of the United States.

Secondly—The communications appearing in the N. Y. *Sunday Dispatch*, in 1857, (about the time of the change in coinage, lent an additional interest to coin gathering, although in a measure, local in its influence.

Thirdly—The sale that occurred in Mr. Cogan's store in this city in 1858, and the subsequent publicity given to it, through the press, both North and South—as well as the *then* extraordinary prices obtained for coins–gave the coin trade permanence, and it became 'a thing of life.'

Now, in addition to the above claims put forth, we propose to name a few other causes which kept the wheel in motion. During the years 1857, '58 and '59, the writer was connected with a very popular exhibition, travelling from North to South, and visiting all the important cities and towns *en route*. While thus engaged, we made it a daily practice to visit all the old junk shops, confectioners, bakers, grocers, &c., and collect all the old and curious coins we could find—at the same time leaving a card, with address, to establish future trade; and this practice led to a very general hunt, in the places aforesaid, for coins, and in many instances we were surrounded at the opening of the Exhibition with men and boys eager to dispose of large quantities of old cents, &c. In one instance while passing though N. C., we purchased ten thousand copper peices; in another at Norfolk, Va., sixty-four brass Washington tokens of 1783, and forty-six Connectieut coins, besides a large quantity and variety both Foreign and American. These coins, or the best of them, were disposed of to Mr. Cogan and Mr. Dickeson of this city.

The gathering of coins afforded us an agreeable pastime, as well as a profitable occupation; and the constant accumulation of coins led us to enter the field as a dealer in this city, in 1860. While thus occupied we advertised very extensively in the large cities offering, what appeared to be fabulous prices for rare U. S. cents. Many of our friends will remember the advertisements, headed with glaring capitals "$25 PAID FOR U. S. CENTS OF 1779." The public manner in which we made known our wants, induced many persons to send us packages

of coins by express, and we were obliged to obtain an assistant for the purpose of opening and examining these packages.

We refer to this matter, as one of the many influences which gave the "Coin Trade," a permanent existence in this country. The reader would naturally suppose that many rare and valuable coins must have passed through our hands. Such was the case, and many of our customers will cheerfully bear witness to the truth of these statements.

While upon the subject of the "Coin Trade," we would call attention to a few of the Coin Collectors of the *times that we read of*, which by some inadvertance have escaped the recollections of A. B. S. and Mr. Cogan.

No doubt, the class of collectors known to be wealthy and persevering in their search for coins, deserve a proper tribute for their industry and energy, but why omit the poorer class; the deserving and honest mechanics, who labored so incessantly, upon limited facilities to obtain rare coins, when these same pieces were snapped up by the rich and the credit of "gunning them up" unceremoniously credited to the *possessor* instead of the *finder*.

We will now enumerate a few "collectors" who are not to be "left out in the cold" in the enumeration of Numismatists of the times alluded to. Each of these persons labored assiduously to collect *rare* and *fine* pieces; and several of them aided materially in making such names as Mickley, Bushnell, Hall, Coffin, Stickney, Chilton, Allen, Davis, Taylor, etc., famous for the possession of choice specimens. How many of our wealthy collectors are indebted to Faact, Levick, Kline, Idler, Mason, Davids, Kolloch, Carpenter, Wallace, Hodge's, Cauffman, Gronberry, Zehnder, Humphries, Harvey, Breichman, Hildeburn, Warner, Nevil, Few Smith, and Hill, for their valuable and finest specimens? If these persons, all of this city, were, in most instances young, and labored daily for a subsistence,—employing their evenings indefatigably in the search for coins—is it any reason why they should not be considered even "Amateur Collectors?" *Amateurs*, indeed! Had Faact no fine pieces? We know from personal acquaintance that Mr. F. had a splendid collection. How about Gronberry, whose collection of cents were the finest in this country? Hildeburn also had some of the finest and rarest pieces, as early as 1857; Levick had many pieces of the highest rarity in 1858; Mason in 1857: Wyman in 1856, and many others we have alluded to, were certainly entitled to be termed "collectors," or "numismatists."

We do not call in question A. B. S. or Mr. Cogan's statements, as far as wealthy numismatists are concerned; but we do believe that in 1858 in this city alone, we could have drummed up a goodly array of "the boys," who if not able to possess a valuable and complete assortment of coins, were certainly worthy of a place in the list of Numismatists of the U. S. At some future time we shall give *our* "recollections of the Coin Trade."

ANCIENT COIN—A CURIOSITY.

"We have been shown by Israel Silver Atkinson, of No. 204 N. Gay street, Baltimore, a small coin, made during the reign of Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, who was the 15th Emperor of Rome, beginning his reign in the year of our Lord 161, and continuing Emperor until his death, in the year 180. The coin has on the obverse a remarkably well executed head of the Emperor, surrounded by the words "Antoninus Aug. Imp. X. V.," and one or two other letters not perfectly legible. On the reverse is seen the Goddess of Justice, holding the balance in her right hand. In her left hand she holds something that is probably intended to represent the horn of plenty. Around this figure we find the letters "M P V I V O N, or S," and several

others not entirely perfect. This coin, now about 1700 years old, is probably the oldest Roman coin, in a good state of preservation, to be found in the hands of a private individual in the United States."

The above copied from a recent Baltimore paper exhibits a pretty old coin, but we can give Mr. Atkinson 1000 years and beat him at that! We have in this office a Roman piece made of the metal called "As" in a good state of preservation. It is in size as large as a nickel cent, made of zinc, and was coined, or cast 900 years B. C.

LINCOLN'S EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

Can any person inform us who purchased the original Emancipation Proclimation written and signed by the late President Lincoln? We are informed that it was sold at the Sanitary Fair in Cincinnati, O., during the war, where it had been sent by Prest. Lincoln, and brought the small sum of $250. As this document is second only to the Declaration of Independence in value as a relic of our country's history, we feel some interest in ascertaining its whereabouts.

ANOTHER 1804 U. S. DOLLAR.

Col. Cohen of Baltimore is the fortunate possessor of an 1804 dollar; making the *fourth* piece of this date known in the world. The price of this dollar is estimated as high as $1000. Mickley's 1804 dollar has passed into the possession of W. Elliott Woodward, Roxbury, Mass. Mr. Woodward has purchased the whole of the "Mickley Collection," so celebrated for containing several *unique* pieces, as well as the finest coins, American and Foreign, known in America. Lucky Woodward! We feel a little pride in stating that Mr. W. called at our office and exhibited the aforementioned U. S. dollar, besides letting us have a private peep at a "Lord Baltimore," "Highley" "Elephant," "Confederatio," "Sommer Island," and several other specimens selected from Mickley's extensive and beautiful collection. Mr. W. did two sensible things while in this city; one was the purchase of Mr. Mickley's collection at $14.000; the other was leaving his subscription for this Magazine for one year.

SOMMER'S ISLAND AND CAROLINA COINS.

Several communications have been received in reference to the "Sommer Island" coin, and "Elephant Cent," of N. C. In the "History of Coins of America," we have invariably followed the various authors on coins of America in stating that the above coins were composed of *brass*, although we have had *genuine* specimens of each to guide us—and those we have examined appeared to be *copper*, or a composition resembling this metal.

Dickeson's Work on Coins pronounces the "Sommer Island" brass; Prime's Work does not give the metal, but refers to the pressing wants of the colonists for *copper* coins. Snowden does not allude to these two coins in his "Manual of Coins of all Nations."

Will some Numismatist please inform us if specimens of the "Sommer Island" and "Carolina" coins are *extant*, struck in brass?

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A great many letters received contain nothing in the way of stamps to prepay replies; and as the expense of answering several hundred letters per week is considerable, and the information sought is of more value to the correspondent than to us, it becomes necessary to convert all such communications into waste paper. A word to the *unwise* is sufficient.

NUMBER OF CENTS AND HALF CENTS,

Struck at U. S. Mint from 1793 to 1867.
(Prepared expressly for Coin Dealers and Collectors.)

	CENTS.	HALF CENTS.
1809	222,867	1,154,572
1810	1,458,500	215,000
1811	218,025	63,140
1812	1,075,500	none coined
1813	418,000	patterns.
1814	357,820	none coined
1815	none coined	"
1816	2,820,982	"
1817	3,948,400	"
1818	3,167,000	"
1819	2,671,000	"
1820	4,407,550	"
1821	389,000	"
1822	2,072,339	"
1823	855,730	"
1824	1,262,000	"

(*To be Continued in July No.*)

NUMISMATICS AS A HOBBY.

The time has never been in the civilized world when men did not follow some particular pursuit or another for the mere pleasure of the following. We have no question but that there were collections of rare poetry at Pompeii, and of *bric a brac* in the halcyon days of Cuzco and Lima, under the Incas. In Rome, men brought together statuary and *basso relievi*, in the time of the Cæsars; and tessellated pavements, mosaics, and arabesque paintings were preserved as curiosities before the Moors entered Spain, and consecrated the advent of heathen Africa into Christian Europe, by the erection of the Alhambra.

There have been collectors of every conceivable thing—bijouterie, marqueterie, potchomanie, buhl, ormolu, orfevrerie, Sevres china, and laces of Valenciennes, Florentine mosaics, and Swiss carvings in wood. Wherever the eye perceives beauty, the heart indicates desire of possession, and so spring up what are popularly termed hobbies, on which men ride for a lifetime—some to satiety, some to fruition, some to ruin.

Now, when the desire for the collection of coins first grew to be fashionable is unknown. Probably it has existed to some extent ever since the introduction of coinage as a fine art. The desire to possess specimens of this new and important manufacture must have been strong in the breasts of the early Greeks and Romans, and we can readily imagine Pliny, Aristophanes, Catullis, Ovid, Livy, or even Cicero, with their coin cabinets, over which they must have enjoyed peculiar satisfaction, as inaugurating a new pastime in a new science. But it is all imagination, after all, for we find no record of the early collection or existence of any such cabinets.

The oldest Numismatic Societies in Europe are modern in their date; and no records existing, we have to depend on probabilities or tradition for any knowledge we may obtain on the subject. But certainly Numismatics, while, no doubt, an expensive hobby, is the most harmless, and the most educating and refining in its influences, that one could pursue. Ennobling, by leading one to pursue his investigations into history and the arts, it is engrossing and all pervading.

The numismatist thinks of nothing but rare coins, muses on them, dreams of them. His enjoyment involves all species of pleasure and mental excitement. He is a sportsman, a gamester, an artist, a detective, a critic, an expert. He follows the scent of a rare coin as a hound does that of a rabbit, and is never satisfied till he has traced it to its burrow. The passions excited are ambition, hope, desire and envy, but never to any extent to be injurious.

Your true Numismatist is usually a man of gentlemanly instincts and scholarly attainments. His associations are with men who think, reason, compare,

sift evidence and judge. He is little likely to be gulled, being always on the lookout for counterfeits; still less likely to deceive others, having a wholesome contempt for base fabrication. On the whole, this hobby is one which should be encouraged, because it leads the workings of the mind into proper channels, trains the faculties, and educates and encourages a sound, healthful taste for the æsthetic.

$25 FOR U. S. CENT OF 1799.

Wanted Cents of 1791, '92, '93, '94, '95, '96, and up to 1823, in *good* or *poor* condition; also all later dates, if *in uncirculated condition.*

MASON & CO.,
No. 434 Chestnut St., Phila.

NEW STAMPS.

We are indebted to S. Allen Taylors beautiful little sheet the *Stamp Collectors' Record*, for April, for the following description of new issues in the stamp line:—

GUATEMALA. A stamp or a series of stamps, we are at present unable to say which, has been issued by the Republic of Guatemala. The design of the only one which has come under our notice is somewhat analagous to the Costa Rica and Nicaragua stamps, being a mountain landscape view with a bay in the foreground with a vessel of the style of the fourteenth century at anchor.

This forms the vignette which is enclosed in a circle and at top the words Guatemala and at the bottom *Correos cinco cent.*, a dim looking sun is depicted in each of the corners. The stamp is evidently of American execution and is doubtless executed by some of the New York or Philadelphia Bank Note Engragers. The colors we believe will be green like the current Peru of the same value.

NEW GRANADA. An entire new set, the various designs of which are too elaborate for description have been emitted. The values and colors are 5c. orange, 10c. lilac, 20c blue, 50c. green, and 1 peso red.

SWITZERLAND. A new stamp of similar design to the present issue, value 50 centimes of a purple color, has been emitted.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA. Two new stamps values and color fourpence purple and two shillings red, have been issued, these arevery poor imitations of the NovaScotia 1c. as regard designs and in point of execution are vastly inferior. Somehow or other the engravers of the old world cannot produce postage stamps to bear any comparison with those of the new world *i. e.* that portion thereof bounded on north by Bhering Straits and on the south by the Gulf of Mexico, and known by European geographers as the United States. Steel engraving is an art in which the Americans engravers are hitherto unequalled.

It is probable that the State of Panama in New Granada, will declare itself independent and probably will issue stamps of its own ere long. It is possible that the stamps of Luxemburg will shortly be superseded.

It is probable that Great Britain will seize the Phillipine Islands and that the face of her Catholic Majesty will be superseded by that of the Majesty of that broad domain on which the Sun never sets, and it is very likely that new stamps with Russian characters thereon, will be issued for the convenience of our Cossack fellow citizens on the Asiatic Frontier.

"CANCELED STAMP MANIA."

Under the above title an extensive article is going the rounds of the press, the substance of which can be condensed in a few words: "A wealthy gentleman offered to give some poor orphan girl of Connecticut a complete education, provided the said orphan obtained for the afore-mentioned wealthy gent, one million canceled P. O. Stamps!"

The expected result of this extensive "advertisement" has been obtained. A shrewd Yankee has accumulated a large quantity of stamps, and the "poor orphan" cannot be found!

The whole thing was a swindling dodge put out by some heartless stamp collector to fill his album with rare stamps, and make money by the sale of his duplicates. "Honesty is the best policy," and we advise those who have a surplus of duplicate stamps to send them to us and get the cash for them.

STAMP COLLECTORS ALBUMS.

Hill's Boston Album, third edition, containing headings and divisions for over 3000 stamps, including spaces for the U. S. Revenue Stamps, rearranged and corrected to November 1866, by Harold Barnard and S. Allen Taylor, beautifully bound in cloth. The latest and most complete Postal Album published, Price $3; by mail, $3 50.

The Excelsior Album [1865], bound in morocco, with gilt back, containing heading for all countries using stamps to date of publication—oblong shape. Price $3; by mail $3 50.

The Nonpareil Postage Stamp Album, ruled to contain over eleven hundred stamps, with descriptions of the current issue in English, French, and German, bound in heavy embossed boards, with gilt edge and title. Price 75 cents; by mail $1.

Lalier's Album [1866], entirely rearranged. The most complete work of the kind published, containing panels for 2000 stamps, bound in cloth, with clasp. Price $6; by mail, $7.

Appleton's Album [1863], published by Messrs. Appleton, of New York, with flags printed in colors, and the most complete and accurate letter-press description of the U. S. stamps to be found in any work published, containing places for all stamps issued to date thereof. Price $2 50; by mail $3.

Either of above albums mailed on receipt of price.

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS' DEPARTMENT, June, 1867.

Priced Catalogue.

Baden.

"Adhesive Stamps."

	Unused. $ cts.	Used. $ cts.
1850.—Figure.		
1 kreuzer, square, buff.....		10
3 " yellow.....		5
6 " green.....		6
1855.—Figure.		
1 kreuzer, square, white		10
3 " blue..		6
3 " green		6
6 " yellow. ...		5
9 " rose..		5
1860.—Arms, (shaded disk.)		
1 kreuzer, square, black.....	5	2
3 " blue..	8	3
6 " blue, orange	18	3
9 " brown, rose	25	3
1862.—Arms, (white disk.)		
1 kreuzer, square, black.....	5	3
3 " rose..	10	3
6 " blue..	15	4
9 " stone.....	20	4
18 " green	30	6
30 " orange.....	45	6
Envelope Stamps.		
1857.—Head to right.		
3 kreuzer, oval, blue..	18	5
6 " yellow.	25	6
9 " rose.	30	6
12 " brown.....	35	8
18 " red..... ...	45	12
1862.		
3 kreuzer, oval, rose..	5	3
6 " blue.....	12	5
9 " stone	20	6
Unpaid Letter Stamps.		
1 kreuzer, yellow.....	5	3
3 " "	8	4
12 " "	18	8

Bavaria.

"Adhesive Stamps."

1849.—Figure.		
1 kreuzer, square, black.....	75	20
1851.—Figure.		
1 kreuzer, square, rose.....	10	4
3 " blue	12	2
6 " brown.....	18	2
9 " green.	20	2
12 " red	30	6
18 " yellow.	30	6

1862.

1 kreuzer, square,	yellow.....	4	1
3 "	rose.....	6	2
6 "	blue.....	10	2
9 "	stone.....	18	1
12 "	green	20	2
18 "	red	25	2

Unpaid Letter Stamps.

3 kreuzer, square,	black	8	5

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G. M. P., Troy, N. Y.—Have received nine subscribers from you, and mailed April and May Nos. with medals, to each. Go on with the work, and be assured your efforts are appreciated. Mint Medals can be furnished you at the prices charged at that institution. There are but *two* "Immune Columbia, 1783's"known,—struck in silver.

C. F. H., Binghamton, N. Y.—Have sent you the prices we pay for modern autographs. Can fix prices more definitely by personal examination of documents. Autograph letters are more desirable than signatures.

H. C. McC., Georgetown, D. C.—The price we pay for coins varies in value according to condition of the coin. All cents from 1814 to 1857 must be extremely perfect,—free from bruises, scratches, rust, or injuries of any kind. All cents from 1791 to 1814 we buy in any condition, where the date is to be seen fairly, paying according to condition. A perfect cent is always more desirable than an imperfect one, and collectors will always pay a higher price for such coins. You can send several specimens in a letter and we can then post you up.

This answer will suffice for a large number of correspondents who have solicited information in reference to the catalogue prices paid for coins. On the 1st of June we shall issue an improved and enlarged Priced Catalogue, at 25 cts., showing prices paid for all.

E. T. Farmer & Co., Cleveland, O.—Should like to purchase your 1799 U. S. cent at $25, if perfect; but if injured by wear, its value is greatly depreciated. Poor 1799 cents range in value from $2 to $5. Can sell them at that price.

Robt. Nelson, Schenectady, N. Y.—The "silver quarter" you have is evidently a "pistareen," and only worth its value in old silver. 1798 and 1800 U. S. cents, 3 cts. to 50 cts.

S. H. S., N. Y.—Silver pieces of scarce dates must be either uncirculated or proof, to command good prices. Common dates, when worn or rubbed, are worth but little, if any, over old silver.

J. Allen, Greencastle,Ind.—Eagle of 1799, circulated, worth gold price only. 17,483 Eagles were struck in this year.

H. W. Gedicke, 205 William St.,N. Y.—Will call and see your collection when we next visit the "Bridge City."

D. A., Jr., St. Louis, Mo.—Sent your order next mail after receipt of letter. Can supply you regularly with all kinds of coins and stamps.

M. A. Barr, N. Y.—Send list of what you have. We want all dates when good.

O. L. C., Newark, N. J.—Send on the relics.

J. B. Clemens, St. Louis, Mo.—The five subscribers received. Do so again. Send us names of dealers and collectors.

J.N.O'Meara,Washington.—We buy all kinds of coins, and sell coins at a small advance on catalogue prices.

W. W. T., Sag Harbor, N. Y.—Sent the pennies you ordered. Can send you some uncirculated cents of common dates.

James A. Petrie, Elizabeth, N. J.—Have you any duplicates to spare? Please send Mr. Haines' address.

E. C. C., Portland, Me.—We will take the medal at $10. It is called a "Washington Medal;" struck in France in 1778,—designed by Voltaire. Your friend can have it for $12, at any time, if

notice is given within one month from date of your letter, (May 3rd).

J. F. H., Boston.—Received $12,30 all right. Send on more orders. Will sell good pieces cheap.

E. C. Fales, Foxboro', Mass.—Of course we buy Continental Currency, or paper money.

A. R. T., Montreal.—Impression you send presents a Queen Elizabeth shilling in a poor state of preservation,—worth 75 cents.

J. P. Willtsie, Newburg.—Subscription received, medal sent. Aid us all you can. It is a good cause, and will keep many a wild youth out of mischief.

G. M. P.—See our Improved Coin Priced Catalogue, just published, at 25 c. You will find Stamp Price List in the Magazine commencing with April.

Bookworm.—"Can you inform me what coins, if any, were in use by the Dutch and Swedes in the early history of Philadelphia?" The coins, so fas as used, were those of Holland and Sweden, which the emigrants brought with them; but these being quite insufficient, the settlers used wampum or sewant in all transactions with the Indians, and in many operations among themselves, where it was certain that the wampum could be disposed of to the Indians. The *Upland Record* contains many entries in which the value of wheat and other articles is regulated as mediums of barter by the value of the quantities in guilders.

E. C.—The price paid for Mickley's collection in said to be $14,000.

NEW GREENBACK.

There is an experimental 15 cent note with a green back, in the hands of the Treasury Department at Washington, designed, if accepted, for general circulation. We hope, in the absence of specie, to see this note in circulation before many days. We shall take special pains to procure specimens of the 15 cent greenback for our friends at a distance.

EXTENSIVE COIN SALE.

The sale of Briechman's Collection of Coins will commence, at Birch & Sons', in this city, on June 6th, at 4 P. M., and continue three days. Parties at a distance will receive a Catalogue by sending their address, with stamp, to this office; and the editor of this Magazine will receive bids for any piece in the Catalogue, and make no charge for services. As we intend to be present at the sale each day, Coin Collectors will please take notice, and make early application.

Mason's Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine, for May, is on our table. It is replete with information for those interested in Numismatics, and the collection of Medals, Autographs, Stamps, Books, Letters, and Curiosities. This business is still in its infancy here, but in the old countries of Europe furnishes employment to many dealers.—*Philada. Age*, May 4th.

Mason's Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine, for May, published by Mason & Co., 434 Chestnut Street, is received. It contains much rare information. The History of the Coins of America is alone worth the subscription price of $1.—*Evening Star*, May 2d.

At a Coin Sale in New York, last week, a silver dollar, coined in 1794, brought $42 50. A half dime, dated 1795, was purchased for $9, and a cent, dated 1799, sold for $20.—*Philada Ledger*, April 25th.

ERRATA.

On the last page of the May No. under the head of "FRACTIONAL CURRENCY OF U. S." there is a *Sixty* cent note enumerated with *autographic signature*. This is a typographical error, it should have been "50 c."

PRICED CATALOGUE OF AUTOGRAPHS.

ABBREVIATIONS.—L S, Letter Signed; A L S, Autograph Letter Signed; D S, Document Signed; S, Autograph Signature; A N S, Autograph Note Signed; A F, Autograph Frank; Env., Envelope directed in handwriting of the party, sold with letter; Env. F, Envelope Franked

Ainsworth, W. H., Novelist, A L S, 1 page, 4to. $1.

Armstrong, General John, A L S, 2 pp., 4to. Valley Forge, May, 1778, to Gen. Lacey. Interesting. $5.

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